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TELETYPE 21

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Czechoslovakia

Industrial Facilities/Latent Anti-Semitism

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1. Ustina-Labe (50°41'N, 14°02'E) is an industrial city of about 85 thousand population. The largest industrial facility is the chemical factory located on Teplice Street, formerly an affiliate of a French chemical cartel. Production includes medicinal chemicals, dyes, chlorine, and phosphorous. Separate brick buildings house the various operations. Employees number about eight thousand. Approximately 1,500 tons of coal is used per day by the plant for power.
2. The Schicht Company, located in Strekov District of Ustina-Labe, produces soap, margarine, and vegetable oil. Personnel number about five thousand.
3. Wolfram Textile Company, of Predlic District, produces wool cloth primarily for export. A limited amount of cloth is sold through state controlled free market shops for gold or divisa coupons.
4. One other textile mill is located in Ustina-Labe specializing in linen. Its name escapes me.
5. Numerous coal mines are located in and around the city. Many local inhabitants are employed in mining profession.
6. Anti-Semitic feeling is not pronounced in Ustina-Labe, but it exists, breaking out sporadically in the form of name calling and discrimination by private citizens. I was singled out for verbal abuse on several occasions in 1951 by gentile customers who had been drinking. This feeling on the part of gentiles is a latent condition that exists over and above any possible communist agitation. The fact that in 1951 such Jews as Slansky and his colleagues were the political bosses of Czechoslovakia did not create an anti-Semitic condition, but merely pointed up in the minds of gentiles their old feelings. Bolshevik purge technique sometimes employs an anti-Semitic tone as it has an appeal to a large segment of the population.

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